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November 19, 2008

AGENDA ITEM 6

TO: MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH BENEFITS COMMITTEE

- I. SUBJECT:** National Coalition on Health Care Membership
- II. PROGRAM:** Health Benefits
- III. RECOMMENDATION:** Information Only
- IV. BACKGROUND:**

The National Coalition on Health Care is the nation's largest and most broadly representative alliance working to improve America's health care. The Coalition, which was founded in 1990 and is non-profit and rigorously non-partisan, is comprised of more than 70 organizations, employing or representing about 150 million Americans. Members are united in the belief of the need for better, more affordable health care for *all* Americans.

The Coalition brings together large and small businesses, the nation's largest labor, consumer, religious and primary care provider groups, and the largest health and pension funds. Distinguished leaders from academia, business, and government have also pledged their support of the Coalition's efforts. The Coalition's Honorary Co-Chairs are former Presidents George Bush and Jimmy Carter, and its Co-Chairs are former Governor Robert D. Ray (R-IA) and former Congressman Paul G. Rogers (D-FL). Its President is Henry E. Simmons, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P.

V. ANALYSIS:

At the November 19, 2008, Health Benefits Committee (HBC) meeting, HBC Vice Chair, George Diehr will provide an update on the activities of the National Coalition on Health Care.

Gregory A. Franklin
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Health Benefits Branch